AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
dynamically establishing ATM adaptation layer 2 (AAL2) channel identifiers (CIDs) on a
call-by-call basis using ATM standards-based call control signaling protocols and
mapping the CIDs to a virtual path/virtual channel (VP/VC) that forms part of a
virtual user network interface (UNI) to an ATM network.

2.   Canceled.

3.   (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus comprising an ATM node configured to~~
~~dynamically establish ATM adaptation layer 2 (AAL2) channel identifiers (CIDs) on a~~
~~call-by-call basis using ATM standards-based call control signaling protocols and map~~
~~each of the CIDs to a virtual path/virtual channel (VP/VC) within an ATM standard call~~
~~control protocol~~ A system comprising:
means for providing end to end AAL2 switched voice service over a core ATM
        network, network access gateways to said core ATM network, and network
        edge devices that convert between time division multiplexed, TDM, voice
        channels and AAL2 streams, the latter used to communicate with the gateways,
wherein said providing means configures an originating network edge device to set up
        a call with a destination network edge device using an ATM Forum promulgated
        signaling protocol that specifies procedures for establishing, maintaining, and
        clearing network connections,
and wherein the originating network edge device maps a virtual path identifier and
        virtual circuit identifier of a connection through the core ATM network that
        connects with the destination network edge device, to a channel identifier (CID)
        of a designated AAL2 virtual channel connection (VCC) and sends this signaling
        information formatted in accordance with said ATM Forum promulgated
        signaling protocol to one of the network access gateways.

4.   Canceled.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising mapping ATM adaptation layer 2 (AAL2) channel identifiers (CIDs) to a virtual path/virtual channel (VP/VC) within a standards-based ATM call control protocol.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the standards-based ATM call control protocol is selected from the list comprising UNI 3.1/4.0 and Q.2931.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the mapping is performed at a network edge device communicatively coupled to customer premises equipment.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the network edge device is communicatively coupled to the customer premises equipment over time division multiplexed communication channels.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising multiplexing the time division multiplexed communication channels to one or more AAL2 VPs/VCs.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising mapping the one or more AAL2 VPs/VCs to the CIDs prior to mapping the CIDs to the VP/VC.

11.   (Previously Presented) Computer-readable instructions, which when implemented by a processor, cause the processor to map ATM adaptation layer 2 (AAL2) channel identifiers (CIDs) to a virtual path/virtual channel (VP/VC) within a standards-based ATM call control protocol.

12.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable instructions of claim 11, wherein the computer-readable instructions are embodied in a computer readable medium.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable instructions of claim 11 further comprising additional instructions, which when implemented by the processor, cause the processor to multiplex one or more time division multiplexed communication channels to one or more AAL2 VPs/VCs prior to mapping the AAL2 CIDs to the VP/VC.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable instructions of claim 13 further comprising yet more instructions, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to map the one or more AAL2 VPs/VCs to the CIDs prior to mapping the CIDs to the VP/VC.